

Minutes of the Pre-Conference Assembly
Saturday, April 1, 2023
Area 08 San Diego-Imperial Alcoholics Anonymous

All Assembly audio is recorded for the purpose of compiling accurate Meeting Minutes. Audio will be deleted prior to the next Meeting of the Area Assembly

"The Ship" VFW 1774
8118 University Avenue
La Mesa, CA 91942

8:00 - 8:45 New GSR School / Orientation Richard O., Alt. Delegate

At the Church – Please follow the signs for the GSR School towards the end of the Main Assembly Hall

On Zoom – Meeting / Reunión ID: 815 2501 5257 Password / Contraseña: 2023GSR

Join Zoom Meeting / Únase a la reunión de Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81525015257> One tap mobile / un toque móvil: +16699006833,,81525015257#

8:30 – 9:00 Registration – At the Church – Please register at the tables at the entrance of the building **On Zoom** – You will register upon entering the Zoom meeting

FOR THE ASSEMBLY

On Zoom - Meeting/ Reunión ID: **863 9194 1442** / Password / Contraseña: **a8assembly**

Join Zoom Meeting / Únase a la reunión de Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86391941442?pwd=RjR4T2puWmJpbVBSbEJrOWlYUWRMQT09>

One tap mobile m/ Un toque móvil: +16694449171,,86391941442#,,,9345025614# US
+16699006833,,86391941442#,,,9345025614# US (San Jose)

09:00 Call to Order - A moment of silence followed by this prayer: - Adrian O. - Chair

"God, please set aside for me all the things I think I know about you, me, AA, my disease, our 3 legacies and especially general service matters, so that I may have an open mind and heart, for a new experience with all of these things."

DECLARATION OF UNITY -"This we owe to AA's future: To place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come."

09:03 The Assembly did not take an opening roll call today. Angelina S. - Registrar
Members checked in at the sign in lists at the front table.

9:05 Thank yous were expressed to Districts 4, 5, and 6 for sponsoring the Assembly.

The suggested donation for food was \$7.00.

Members on zoom had their committees reassigned. Apologies.

Break out rooms were set up for their committee work.

Members in the room were asked to note the binders on the tables. The binders have important information relevant to today's Mock General Service Conference.

09:15 Introductions: New GSRs, DCMs, Committee Chairs, Alternates, Past Delegates, and Guests - Adrian O. - Chair

Welcome to our 19 new GSRs! *May you have a wonderful experience at your first assembly as Area 8 puts on our first ever Mock General Service Conference!*

Brad P. Alcoholic from D16; Nicole, Alcoholic GSR. for Friday night, Gratitude meeting, D6;

Jordon T,

Primary purpose, alternate GSR; Ann R. D11 Sisters in Sobriety, Santee;

Laurie M, the Every Night at 6, Zoom Meeting. We're online. I don't know our district.

Connie. alcoholic, D10. Strength in Women; Savannah, GSR, El Cajon, grupo Bonita Soledad, D15, El Cajon; Jesus A, GSR, D15, Grupo Benito Hispano; George Spiller, GSR, D12, Cast of Your Own 5th Tradition; Butch, alcoholic, recycled past officer, GSR, for Midday Miracles. Online only.

New GSRs online: Derek B., the Water Walkers, Allied gardens. GSR; Liam C., GSR, D1 in Vista, Beginner's Meeting;

Gabriel GSR D9, the Triangle Fellowship; Dana, GSR, Severity Group, D19; Lorna S, D7, Lunchtime Friends, Mon

-Fri. 12pm, Hybrid; Janice L D2, Women's Handbag Meeting; Juia R. D16, the Olivenhain, Women's Over 40; Carolyn G - D4 GSR; Michelle G D5 Class Acts.

Past delegates Tom M. and Jerry S were present to help out with our Mock Conference.

Past delegate Roxana R was also present as Literature Chair.

Welcome and Thank-you to our former delegates who are here today to assist us.

09:20 Secretary Report – Minutes of the January Orientation Assembly - Rose P. - Secretary

There were no additions or corrections. Motion to approve. Seconded.
All in favor - hands raised, majority. Any opposed - no. Minutes approved.

09:25 Treasurer Report - Lynn E. - Treasurer

I have an important, unusual announcement to make. In February, the Area's bank account was by professionals. We had 2 electronic withdrawals made. One was for \$1,850; the other was for \$2,075.

All of the money has been restored through a long process of working with Bank of America and filing fraud claims.

The list of what we have changed in terms of our procedures to secure the future of our new account includes new checks, a new debit card, and our venmo is tied to the new account.

Many people helped with this: our Alt Treasurer, Rob, the Finance Committee, and Adrian.

The Treasurer's Report details more of the safeguards and other details.

[Treasurer's-Report-informe-de-tesorería.pdf](#)

A new tax preparer -

We are now using the same tax preparer as the Central Office uses. She is also their CPA.

It is Budget Season:

If you are a Committee Chair or an Area Officer you'll be preparing a 2024 budget.

The first resource for preparing a budget is the Budget Workshop will be Saturday, April 20, 10:30 to noon. It's on zoom. More details on the flier on the Area 8 calendar.

The second resource is you can call us: Rob, our Alt Area Treasurer, Teresa, the Finance Committee Chair or Lynn, Area Treasurer.

Rob, Alt-Treasurer - Our Financial Summary. The total contributions for February were \$2,001. You'll see that looks a little low. It is low because the bank account was locked for part of February. Follow the link for the full report, 2023-Finances_Finanzas-12-Mo.pdf: [San Diego & Imperial Area Assembly / Asamblea de área 2023 Finances and Budget / Finanzas y presupuesto](#)

09:30 Introduction to the Day's Activities - Adrian, Area Chair

All Members:

We're all working in our Conference Committees at our Conference Committee tables. You're all delegates. We're mirroring the conference.

We have 14 Area standing committees. We do not have many tables up around the room today, just because of space and time. But we do have Grapevine/La Viña and our Young Peoples' Coordinating Committee.

Here we're hoping that you can draw an experience today that might incite some excitement towards serving on those standing committees.

I will touch on this again before we close today.

Our Area 8 Committee Chairs are going to be facilitating the discussions today.

- Every group/committee will assign a scribe.
- The scribe, with the group's help, will write a report on your discussion of the topics/questions that each of you will find in your binders.
- At the end of the day, the scribe will read the report to our delegate, and to all of us.
- Every binder has all the agenda items that are going to the General Service Conference.
- Every binder has a description of how to conduct a Sharing Session. The committee discussions can follow that template.

Addressing Our Members on Zoom:

Members were asked to start logging in and to be prepared for the breakout rooms.

The Conference Committee was written before each name in all caps.

For example, Bill W. on the Public information committee. PI in all caps before his name. PI, Bill W..

The list of committees was put up on the screen.

Adrian introduced Monty C. - Delegate:

Monty began with gratitude for the people who helped set up this assembly/mock conference.

- Our Area Chair, Adrian, our Alternate Delegate, Richard O. and our IT Chair, Paul K. have worked tirelessly with Monty to get his ideas organized for our experience today.

- This mock conference is about collecting a more conscious collective voice of the members of Area 8.
 - We hope you will all feel your Right of Participation as we proceed today.
 - This work is for the newcomer who has not arrived yet.
 - Each of your committees will have questions on agenda items from the Conference.
 - Delegates are given various themes to speak on at the conference.
- There were three Conference Presentations - Link S., Tom Q., and Richard O. spoke on AA themes.

09:33 Conference Presentation #1 - AA's Three Legacies, Our Common Solution - Link S.

Link told us about the Three Legacies making their first appearance at a talk by Bill W at AA's twentieth anniversary celebration in St. Louis, Missouri.

- The Three Legacies were spelled out.
- This first legacy by which we recover from alcoholism, the second legacy, unity, by which we stay together and the third legacy, service, by which our society functions and serves its primary purpose of carrying the AA message to all who need it and want it. In our first legacy, Recovery, Bill talked about sharing from our personal experience and not making speeches.
- He also makes a distinction between leadership and management - to manage may involve resources and moving them around but leadership gives direction. A leader can offer direction by helping us focus on our primary purpose

09:40 Breakout to Assigned Conference Committee Groups - Everyone

Adrian gave us the schedules, the breaks, the report-ups at the end - an overall picture of what to expect.

10:30 BREAK

10:40 Return to Conference Committee Groups Everyone

11:30 BREAK

11:40 Return to Conference Committee Groups Everyone

12:30 LUNCH – 40 Minutes – NSDYPAA (North San Diego Young PeoplesAA) Bid Skit for ACYPAA 51 (Video) - Everyone

01:10 BIRTHDAYS (A.A. birthdays since 1/14/23) Cheryl F. - Alt. Chair

Ann, 1 yr. 3/7; Connie, 4 yrs, 1/29; Robert, 4 yrs, 3/5; Sarah, 4 yrs, 1/25; Tom, 8 yrs, 3/31; Lisa, 9 yrs, 4/1; Liam, 10 yrs, 2/25; Brit, 11 yrs, 2/3; Steve, 18 yrs, 3/19; Allen, 23 yrs, 2/9; Hugh, 25 yrs, 2/5; Nicole, 34 yrs, 1/20, Blaine, 37 yrs, 3/31/86. 188 years of sobriety! We sang.

01:15 Conference Presentation #2 - General Service: Our Mighty Purpose and Rhythm - Richard O., Alt Delegate In my home group, Oct 13, 2008, General Service was not attractive. They only cared about having our meetings.

When I got into General Service I got a General Service sponsor who had been a delegate. I started tagging along with him. My first Regional forum was in 2010.

I've been in D15 and in Hispanic groups doing General Service and now I'm here with you guys.

I found a note that says, since the beginning in 1935, the success of Alcoholics Anonymous has sparked interest in AA members, professionals, and the general public. They want to learn more about how it works to help alcoholics.

I needed to find the motivation and interest for staying in AA. It was to stop suffering from my disease of alcoholism and to be of service. Sponsorship allowed me to understand that I needed you guys and that I needed to be around AA to keep living, to save my life.

The Service Manual, page 2 "Welcome to General Service! Today there are approximately 2 million members of Alcoholics Anonymous represented in 125,000 groups, spread across approximately 180 countries. More than 40 million copies of our basic text Alcoholics Anonymous have been distributed over 70 languages.

We're in our 72 year of a conference. The movement of AA has continued with a mighty purpose and rhythm.

So what is Our Mighty Purpose and Rhythm?

I looked at the pamphlet, Circles of Love and Service, and on the back page there's a paragraph that says: "All parts of our fellowship, group meetings, committees, offices, conferences, and groups. group jobs, share one common purpose - to help the alcoholic who still suffers? Are we doing that? Have we been doing that?"

I thought and thought and circled around this idea of what our mighty purpose and rhythm is.

AA is made up of interconnected circles of people within our fellowship, who work together to carry the AA message of hope. In order for AA to run itself without bosses or rules, in accordance with our 12 Traditions, we need a system of

communication. I believe we need communication, to know what's going on in AA, in our groups, and around the world, to find out how AA as a whole feels about world affairs and how it wants to operate.

I want to finish off by reading this section that says the conference structure of AA is a framework in which these general services are carried out. It is a method, by the way, by which AA's collective group conscious can speak forcefully and put its desire for worldwide services into effect ensuring that the full voice of a will be heard, and guaranteeing that the movement- wide services will continue to function under all conditions.

I strongly believe that all of us are here because we make a difference in our area, in our groups, and around this in order to help that still suffering alcoholic.

Thank you for allowing me to share.

01:23 Conference Presentation #3 - Using AA's Literature in Carrying the Message Tom Q., GSR

Tom spoke on the ways that AA literature is beneficial to all of us. Here is his presentation.

- 2 elements of my talk are AA literature. and using it to carry our message of sobriety.
- our big book of Aa has sold over 40 million, is one of the best-selling books of all time and is regarded as one of the most important books in the world.
- AA literature has been translated into 100 languages globally.
- The current literature listing@aa.org contains 235 items in print.
- Our literature explains the 36 principles of AA. and provides guidance for living and sharing a sober life.
- Secondly, here are some of the ways that literature can be used or applied to carry the message.

1, Education. Our documents provide consistent and effective means for educating ourselves and others about the disease and recovery from alcoholism. By reading the stories one can experience the strength and hope of other alcoholics. This can be especially helpful for those who may not recognize they have a problem with alcohol.

2. Inspiration. Reading these stories can help those who are struggling from alcoholism to see that recovery is possible and they are not alone, and to share a connection with us in hope.

3. Guidance. Our literature teaches us how we can live sober spiritual lives, how anger and resentment can be managed and how productive lives are reborn.

4. Structure. The steps, traditions, and concepts describe and suggest how our fellowship organizations and groups can be structured and managed to forever work together and to carry our love and tolerance unity message to the members of AA and those who still suffer./

5. Fellowship - Literature can be a great way to connect with others. In the fellowship we discuss our literature with other members in groups, meetings, workshops, and assemblies.

Here's a great quote at the top of page 112 in the 4th edition, "Read this Book".

1:30 Conference Committee Report Backs to Delegate - Monty and Conference Committee Scribes

The scribes began their "report backs". We heard from these committees in this session and the next. Some of the names do not match our Area 8 standing committees. They may have a similar function. They are the Conference Committees. Agenda, Archives, CPC, (Contact with the Professional Community), Corrections, Finance, Grapevine, LaViña, Literature, Corrections, Policy and Admissions, Public Information, Report and Charter, Treatment and Accessibilities, Trustees Committee, Not in this order.

02:20 BREAK

02:30 Conference Committee Report Backs to Delegate – Continued Conference Committee Scribes

03:30 Open Mic – Group Conscience on Items Not Addressed - GSRs

04:00 Closing Comments & Adjourn with the Responsibility Statement - "I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible."

NEXT ASSEMBLY: Saturday, May 20, 2023 @ 9:00 AM

Location: First United Methodist Church

2111 Camino del Rio South

San Diego, CA 92108

Check <https://www.area8aa.org> for more information

Respectfully submitted:

Rose Pope, Area 8 , Panel 72 Secretary

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